

Chelveston-cum-Caldecott News

Parish Council & Village News – October & November 2022

Autumn Watch Day

With this newsletter should be a flyer for the Autumn Watch day on **Saturday 22nd October** for a celebration of all things autumn, as we become the UK's first ever Bin Twinning Village.

DoE Award – volunteering in the Parish. The Duke of Edinburgh's Award is a youth awards programme founded in the United Kingdom in 1956 by the late Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh. The candidates have to undertake Volunteering, Physical, Skills and Expedition activities.

Rowan Mehegan of Chelveston contacted the Parish Council to ask if he could volunteer to do litter picking as part of his DoE Bronze activities. The Council provided the equipment (and risk assessment), so Rowan has been litter picking in Chelveston and Caldecott over a three month period. We wish Rowan every success in gaining his Bronze award.

NDP Review Working Party – as no volunteers have come forward, the Council will conduct the 5 year review in-house.

Community Speed Watch – The CSW speed camera arrived in the parish in July, but unfortunately there were insufficient volunteers (the Police require a minimum of three volunteers for each turn), so no traffic calming activities took place. The camera has moved on to the next parish on the rota.

If you would like to be a CSW volunteer and be trained to use the speed camera, please contact Cllr Clinton Hill (cllr.clinton.hill@chelveston-pc.gov.uk).

Village Hall sound system improvements – Work has started on the upgrade of parts of the sound system in the Village Hall, with the installation (by Adrian Dale) of a floor box that contains the microphone and power connections.

Improved 5G coverage - EE and Hutchison are in the process of upgrading a number of sites in the UK to make them 5G. This upgrade process will primarily involve swapping existing equipment and replacing this with new apparatus. Locally a new 5G mast will appear by the B645 at the Rushden Golf Club layby (replacing the existing 3G/4G mast).

Higham Road undulations – The B645 between Rushden Golf Club and the 30 limit of Chelveston suffered for years with undulations in the road due to subsidence. These were addressed by Highways several years ago (the newer sections of road can still be seen).

Unfortunately, the undulations have returned, causing vehicles to lean / lurch when travelling at speed. This has been reported to Highways, but does not meet their intervention level yet.

HM Queen Elizabeth II

21st April 1926 – 8th September 2022

The Parish marked the passing of our late Queen for the last 70 years with respect. Parish and private landowner Union flags were all flown at half-mast for the period of national mourning (save for being raised during the Proclamation of King Charles III).

Churchyard survey - During October a consultancy called AG International will be undertaking a detailed survey of the Churchyard, mapping the position of every memorial using a laser scanner linked to a high resolution Global Positioning System (GPS).

Although part of a 10 year national project by the Church of England to map all 19,000 burial grounds in the country, our Parochial Church Council (PCC) has chosen to engage directly with the consultants to bring our Churchyard to the front of the queue.

This mapping work will complete a project started by Adrian Dale and Caroline Knight in 2012. Caroline photographed the 209 memorials then present and transcribed all the legible inscriptions at the time.

Adrian then transcribed the current burial register held in the Church detailing all the burials since 1951. He also tried to map the Churchyard himself by staking out a grid and then measuring to the 4 corners of each grave from 3 grid points. However, this turned out to be too laborious (at least an hour per grave) and then there was no simple way of producing a digital map.

Technology has now moved on and the whole process will be undertaken by the laser scanner in 3-4 hours. An example of the map produced is here: <https://shelley.burialgrounds.co.uk/mapmanagement/>. Adrian has now updated his database with all the burials since 2012, and has been to the Northamptonshire Records Office to photograph and transcribe the burial register from 1813-1951.

We now have detailed records of 1,000 burials since 1813, but interestingly can only “find” memorials for 345 of these. There are some illegible memorials, but also many unmarked graves. The work of compiling the map, and loading our data into, it should be completed this year. This will help the PCC to establish the number and location of the remaining plots. If anyone doing family research would like access to the data before it is officially published, please contact Adrian Dale.

Next Issue: The December & January issue of the Newsletter should be delivered in the first week of December, so if you want to publicise a parish event, please let me know before the end of November.

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Events – October & November 2022

The Chelveston Parish Church of St. John the Baptist (contact Arthur Wright - 624530).

There is a communion service **every Sunday morning at 9.00am**.

Our usual Sunday service at 9am continues while we await the appointment of a new priest for us and St Mary's Higham Ferrers. During this time of interregnum we have been most grateful for the continued ministry of retired priests Rev'd Paul Needle and Rev'd Lesley McCormack who have looked after us so well during this time.

Nearly one hundred people signed the Book of Condolences in the church following the death of our beloved Queen Elizabeth II and this will go to the County Records Office for safe keeping.

On Sunday 25th September we had a Harvest Songs of Praise at 4.30pm followed by a superb Harvest Supper and auction of produce afterwards by Andrew Wager. There were some 70+ people attending and the musical content of the service was in the hands of Sam Stringer on the organ, Christina White with tambourine and concertina and the Rev'd Paul on the church piano and he gave us interesting facts about the origins of the harvest hymns and their writers and musical composers.

There has been a most encouraging response to the church recycling initiative with boxes in the porch for squashed drinks cans, empty pill packets, old biro's and milk bottle tops and we hope more people from the village will help our efforts to put these used items to good effect.

Finally we commend anyone who walks round the village to look in at the beautiful array of pink and white cyclamen that line the churchyard drive and continue into the churchyard itself. It is our good fortune that we have these lovely flowers in autumn that can follow our snowdrops in early Spring and allow us all to enjoy nature's bounty.

Food Bank

We're currently in need of tinned vegetables (including potatoes), tinned fruit, custard, and puddings, in addition to ongoing shortages of UHT semi-skimmed milk, tinned meat, jam, small jars of coffee and small bags of sugar (*no baked beans, soup or pasta please, we have lots!*) They can be left in church with the other donations. The donation box is at the back of the church (near the toilet). As always, thank you for your continued support.

Arthur Wright & Peggy Deards, Churchwardens



The Events Team programme of activities (TEXT Carol on 07880-556286).

Thank you to everyone who supported the **Annual Fun Dog Show** on 4th September. Lots of lovely owners with well-behaved dogs and it was great to see people without dogs who came along for the fun, tea and cake.

Our next event is the **Halloween Display on Monday 31st October**. Please see flyer for details.

The **Fun Quiz at St Johns Church on Friday 18th November** is sold out.

Please see the next newsletter for events in 2023, especially plans for the Coronation!



The Parish Council usually meets on the second Monday of the month at **7.30pm**. Members of the public are welcome to attend and may speak on any agenda item at the Chair's discretion.

Please note that the October meeting has been moved back to Monday 24th October.

The agenda and meeting papers are posted on the website (www.chelveston-pc.gov.uk) and the agenda is on the parish noticeboards at least 3 clear days before the meetings.

Parish Council Members & Officers

Chair: Andrew Seaman, Rosemoor, Raunds Rd.
Vice: Jennifer Harwood, 7 Britten Close.
Sarah Cinnamond 44 The Crescent, Chelston Rise.
Andy Cuthbert, 38 The Crescent, Chelston Rise.

Clinton Hill, 52 The Crescent, Chelston Rise.
Carol Parsons, 5 Pokas Cottages.
Peter Smith, 2 Bidwell Lane, Caldecott
Clerk: Mark Hunter, Ashbury, Caldecott (626039).

E-mails to the Council on clerk@chelveston-pc.gov.uk